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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/EP 03/00572

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 B25J9/04 B25J9/10

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 B25J

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 271 292 A (SAWADA YASUHIRO ET AL) 21 December 1993 (1993-12-21)	1-4, 8-15
Y	column 4 -column 6; figures 1,3,4 ---	5-7
X	US 6 287 406 B1 (ITO TOSHIKAZU ET AL) 11 September 2001 (2001-09-11)	1-4, 12, 15
Y	column 4, line 59 -column 6, line 29; figures 6-8 ---	6,7
X	EP 0 295 306 A (FANUC LTD) 21 December 1988 (1988-12-21) the whole document --- -/--	1,2,4-6, 12,13

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

24 April 2003

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Name and mailing address of the ISA

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A	US 5 640 883 A (TAKIZAWA HIROSHI) 24 June 1997 (1997-06-24) column 4, line 18 -column 8, line 5; figures 3-5 ---	1-3,6, 8-13,15
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